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1. (Currently Amended) A mobile device comprising:
  - a first segment;
  - a second segment moveably coupled to the first segment to move primarily along one axis;  
without pivoting, between a contracted position and an extended position, wherein an overall length of the mobile device is (i) maximized when the second segment is in the extended position and (ii) reduced when the second segment is moved towards the contracted position as compared to when the second segment is in the extended position;
  - a display assembly provided by the first segment;
  - a first input mechanism provided by the second segment;wherein the first input mechanism overlays a portion of the display assembly when the second segment is in the contracted position, and wherein the first input mechanism is positioned away from the display assembly so that the portion of the display assembly is accessible to contact by a user when the second segment is in the extended position.
2. (Previously Presented) The mobile device of claim 1, wherein the display assembly includes a first section having a cross-section comprising a digitizer pad and a screen, and a second section comprising the digitizer pad without the screen, and wherein the portion of the display assembly that is overlaid by the first input mechanism includes the second section.
3. (Previously Presented) The mobile device of claim 1, wherein the display assembly includes a character recognition section configured to

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immediately recognize and display assembly a character entry, and wherein the portion of the display assembly that is overlaid by the first input mechanism includes the immediate character recognition section.

4. (Previously Presented) The mobile device of claim 1, wherein an exterior surface of the second segment includes a front panel, wherein a plurality of input mechanisms that include the first input mechanism are actuatable from the front panel, and wherein the front panel overlays the portion of the display assembly when the second segment is in the contracted position.
5. (Previously Presented) The mobile device of claim 1, wherein the first input mechanism includes a multi-directional member.
6. (Previously Presented) The mobile device of claim 1, further comprising a plurality of input mechanisms that include the first input mechanism, and wherein at least one of the plurality of input mechanisms is a button that can be pressed to cause an input to be entered onto the mobile device.
7. (Previously Presented) The mobile device of claim 1, further comprising a plurality of input mechanisms that the first input mechanism, and wherein at least one of the plurality of input mechanisms is actuatable by detecting surface contact.
8. (Previously Presented) The mobile device of claim 1, wherein the first segment includes a first rail, the first rail being positioned on a lateral side of the first segment, and wherein the second segment includes a first connecting

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member that is engaged to the first rail, the first connecting member slideable along a length of the first rail to enable the second segment to move between the contracted position and the extended position.

9. (Previously Presented) The mobile device of claim 1, wherein the first segment includes a first rail and a second rail, and wherein the second segment includes a first connecting member and a second connecting member, wherein the first connecting member is engaged to the first rail, the second connecting member being engaged to the second rail, the first connecting member and the second connecting member each being slideable along a length of the respective first rail and second rail to enable the second segment to move between the contracted position and the extended position.

10. (Previously Presented) The mobile device of claim 9, wherein the first segment comprises a front shell, a midframe, and a bottom shell, and wherein the first rail is formed onto a first surface of the midframe, and wherein the second rail is formed onto a second surface of the midframe.

11. (Previously Presented) The mobile device of claim 9, wherein the first rail and the second rail extend lengthwise on a back surface of the first segment.

12. (Previously Presented) The mobile device of claim 11, wherein the second segment includes a back plate that slides adjacent to the back surface of the mobile device.

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13. (Previously Presented) The mobile device of claim 11, wherein the back plate of the second segment includes the first connecting member that slides within the first rail, and the second connecting member that slides within the second rail.
14. (Previously Presented) The mobile device of claim 1, wherein the first segment is slideably coupled to the second segment so that the second segment moves along a single axis when moving between the contracted position and the extended position.
15. (Previously Presented) The mobile device of claim 1, further comprising a midframe coupled to the first segment and the second segment.
16. (Previously Presented) The mobile device of claim 15, wherein the second segment connects to the midframe to move between the contracted position and the extended position.
17. (Previously Presented) The mobile device of claim 16, wherein the midframe includes a first rail, and wherein the second segment includes a first connecting member that is engaged to the first rail, the first connecting member moving a distance in the first rail to enable the second segment to move between the contracted position and the extended position.
18. (Previously Presented) The mobile device of claim 16, wherein the midframe includes a first rail and a second rail, and wherein the second segment

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includes a first connecting member and a second connecting member, the first connecting member being engaged to the first rail, the second connecting member being engaged to the second rail, the first connecting member and the second connecting member each moving a distance in the respective first rail and second rail to enable the second segment to move between the contracted position and the extended position.

19. (Currently Amended) A mobile device comprising:

a first segment;

a display assembly accessible on a front surface of the first segment; and  
a second segment slideably coupled to the first segment to move, without

pivoting, between a contracted position and an extended position,  
wherein an overall length of the mobile device is (i) maximized when  
the second segment is in the extended position, and (ii) minimized when  
the second segment is in the contracted position, and wherein the second  
segment ~~being is~~ positioned to overlay and reduce an area of the contact-  
sensitive display assembly that is accessible to contact when moved  
~~from the extended position to~~ the second segment is in the contracted  
position;

wherein an overall length of the mobile device is reduced when the second  
segment is moved towards the contracted position as compared to when  
the second segment is in the extended position.

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20. (Previously Presented) The mobile device of claim 19, wherein the display assembly is contact-sensitive.
21. (Previously Presented) The mobile device of claim 20, wherein all of the display assembly is accessible to receive contact as input when the second segment is in the extended position.
22. (Previously Presented) The mobile device of claim 20, wherein the display assembly includes an immediate character recognition section configured to immediately recognize and display a character entry, and wherein a portion of the display assembly that is overlaid by the first segment includes the immediate character recognition section.
23. (Previously Presented) The mobile device of claim 20, wherein the display assembly includes a first section having a cross-section comprising a digitizer pad and a screen, and a second section comprising the digitizer pad without the screen, and wherein a portion of the display assembly that is overlaid by the first housing segment includes the second section.
24. (Previously Presented) The mobile device of claim 19, further comprising a midframe coupled to the first segment and the second segment.
25. (Previously Presented) The mobile device of claim 24, wherein the midframe includes a first rail, and wherein the second segment includes a first connecting member that is engaged to the first rail, the first connecting member

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moving a distance in the first rail to enable the second segment to move between the contracted position and the extended position.

26. (Previously Presented) The mobile device of claim 24, wherein the midframe includes a first rail and a second rail, and wherein the second segment includes a first connecting member and a second connecting member, the first connecting member being engaged to the first rail, the second connecting member being engaged to the second rail, the first connecting member and the second connecting member each moving a distance in the respective first rail and second rail to enable the second segment to move between the contracted position and the extended position.

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27. (Currently Amended) A housing assembly for a mobile device, the housing

comprising:

a first housing segment having a front surface, the front surface including an opening to provide access to a display surface for the mobile device;

a second housing segment moveably coupled to the first housing segment to move, without pivoting, between a contracted position and an extended position, wherein the second housing segment overlaying overlays a first region of the opening of the first housing segment when in the contracted position, and wherein the first region of the opening that is overlaid by the second housing segment being reduced as the second housing segment is moved from the contracted position towards the extended position; and wherein an overall length of the housing assembly is (i) maximized when the second housing segment is in the extended position, and (ii) minimized when the second housing segment is in the contracted position-reduced when the second housing segment is moved from the extended position towards the contracted position.

28. (Original) The housing assembly of claim 27, wherein none of the first area is overlaid by the second housing segment when the second housing segment is in the extended position.



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29. (Previously Presented) The housing assembly of claim 27, wherein, the first housing segment provides a top housing for the mobile device, the top housing having a reduced section provided towards a bottom of the top housing, the second housing segment provides a bottom housing for the mobile device, the bottom housing being configured to overlay at least a majority of the reduced section of the top housing when in the contracted position, and wherein the bottom housing is configured to at least not overlay the majority of the reduced section when in the extended position.
30. (Original) The housing assembly of claim 29, wherein the second housing segment includes a back plate that extends from the bottom housing to slide along a back surface of the first housing segment when the second housing segment is moved between the contracted position and the extended position.
31. (Original) The housing assembly of claim 27, wherein the first housing segment comprises a top shell, a midframe, and a bottom shell.
32. (Original) The housing assembly of claim 31, wherein the midframe has a first rail on a first lateral side of the midframe, and a second rail on a second lateral side of the midframe.
33. (Original) The housing assembly of claim 31, wherein the second housing segment includes a bottom housing and a back plate, the bottom housing being shaped to abut a top housing of the first housing segment when the second housing segment is moved into the contracted position, the back plate being positioned to slide along a back surface of the first

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housing segment when the second housing segment is moved between the contracted position and the extended position.

34. (Previously Presented) The housing assembly of claim 33, wherein an interior surface of the second housing segment includes a first connecting member and a second connecting member, the first connecting member and the second connecting member being slideably engaged with the first rail and the second rail.
35. (Original) The housing assembly of claim 32, wherein a back surface of the first housing segment includes a first rail and a second rail, the back surface opposing the front surface.
36. (Original) The housing assembly of claim 35, wherein the second housing segment includes a bottom housing and a back plate, the bottom housing being shaped to abut a top housing of the first housing segment when the second housing segment is moved into the contracted position, the back plate being positioned to slide along a back surface of the first housing segment when the second housing segment is moved between the contracted position and the extended position.
37. (Original) The housing assembly of claim 36, wherein the back plate is dimensioned to slide between the first rail and the second rail on the back surface of the first housing segment, and wherein the back plate includes a first connecting member to engage the first rail, and a second connecting member to engage the second rail.

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38. (Original) The housing assembly of claim 27, wherein the first housing segment includes a top shell, a midframe, and a bottom shell, a first rail formed on a first lateral side of the midframe, a second rail formed on a second lateral side of the midframe, and wherein a back surface of the first housing segment includes a third rail and a fourth rail.
39. (Previously Presented) The housing assembly of claim 38, wherein the second housing segment includes a first bottom housing and a back plate, and wherein the first housing segment includes a top housing and a reduced section, the bottom housing of the second housing segment being moveable over the reduced section of the first housing segment to abut the top housing when the second housing segment is positioned in the contracted position, wherein the back plate is dimensioned to move within the first rail and the second rail of the first housing segment to slide along the back surface of the first housing segment, and wherein an interior of the bottom housing includes a first connecting member that is engaged with the first rail provided on the midframe, and a second connecting member that is engaged with the second rail provided on the midframe.
40. (Original) The housing assembly of claim 37, wherein the first connecting member and the second connecting member are each biased, wherein the first rail is configured to retain the first connecting member in an unbiased state at a position corresponding to the contracted position and at another position corresponding to the extended position, and wherein the second rail is configured to retain the second connecting member in an unbiased state at a position corresponding to the contracted position and at another position corresponding to the extended position.

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41. (Currently Amended) A mobile device comprising:  
a first segment ~~providing on which~~ a first input feature is provided;  
a second segment slideably coupled to the first segment to move primarily along one axis, without pivoting, between a contracted position and an extended position, the second segment providing a second input feature, wherein an overall length of the mobile device is (i) maximized when the second segment is in the extended position, and (ii) minimized when the second segment is in the contracted position, and wherein the second segment overlays a portion of the first segment when moved towards the contracted position so as to reduce a length of the mobile device.
42. (Previously Presented) The mobile device of claim 41, wherein the first input feature corresponds to a contact-sensitive display.
43. (Previously Presented) The mobile device of claim 41, wherein the second input feature corresponds to one or more buttons.
44. (Previously Presented) The mobile device of claim 41, wherein the first segment has a reduced section that has a lesser thickness than a remainder of the first portion, and wherein the second segment slides over the reduced section when moving towards the contracted position.
45. (Currently Amended) A mobile device comprising:  
a first segment;

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- a second segment moveably coupled to the first segment to move primarily along one axis, without pivoting, between a contracted position and an extended position, wherein an overall length of the mobile device is (i) maximized when the second segment is in the extended position, and (ii) minimized when the second segment is in the contracted position, and wherein ~~an~~ the overall length of the mobile device is reduced when the second segment is moved towards the contracted position as compared to when the second segment is in the extended position;
- a display assembly provided by the first segment;
- a first input mechanism provided by the second segment;
- wherein when the second segment is in the contracted position, the first segment and the second segment are at least partially overlayed, so that access to at least one of either the first input mechanism and the display assembly is at least partially blocked.
46. (Previously Presented) The mobile device of claim 45, wherein the display assembly is contact-sensitive.
47. (Previously Presented) The mobile device of claim 45, wherein the first input mechanism includes a set of one or more buttons.
48. (Previously Presented) The mobile device of claim 45, wherein the first input mechanism includes a plurality of one or more mechanical input mechanisms.
49. (Previously Presented) The mobile device of claim 45, wherein the first segment overlays the second segment so that the display assembly covers at least a portion of the first input mechanism.

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50. (Previously Presented) The mobile device of claim 45, wherein the second segment is configured to slide towards and away from the first segment.